

Noelex Telltales

Volume 15 – Issue 1

the official newsletter of

January/February 2010.



NOELEX



Yacht Association of Australia Inc

ABN 81 063 080 148

Incorporating **Noelex Yacht Squadron Inc**



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- **Noelex Yacht Squadron Inc**

And more

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Your Committee for 2009/2010



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Officers shown with an * behind their name comprise the 'Association's Committee of Management'			

*Telltales is the official newsletter of Noelex Yacht Association of Australia Inc - (ABN. 81 063 080 148)
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Editor's Notes

I know exactly what you are saying: "Well, it's about time; whatever happened?"

If you really want to know, our side by side fridge stopped working, rushed in a technician and had it working again. Just 2 days later the deepfreeze, stacked with food had the compressor fail. Another rush job, new compressor and related expense.

What has all this got to do with the Association? Well, wait for number 3. You guessed it. Things always come in three. The CPU (central processing unit) of our computer lost its life. Where does one get a replacement in a hurry? One doesn't.

Because our world is in such a state of daily changes in technology, CPU's for anything older than 12 months are just not available. My technician had a few suggestions. Number one, throw the machine out and buy a new one. Number two, replace the motherboard and CPU. The latter comes at half the cost but the advice was that most likely much information, if not all, on the hard drive may be lost. Substantial savings by 'DIY' methods would save many \$\$s in labor.

As it happened, our member Danny Conway works for Microsoft and had offered to look into a possible donation by Microsoft for a free copy of Windows 7. I liked the idea as we still use Windows XP which is fast approaching its 'use by date'. I did have Vista, had lots of problems with it and rolled back to XP. To get to the bottom line, Danny did a great job. I received a complimentary copy of Windows 7 from MS (which retails at \$399.00), got a motherboard and CPU and commenced to do my own repairs. I had a spare hard disk, installed the hardware and Windows 7, installed the old drive as a secondary drive and copied all the necessary information to the main drive. After untold and some very late nights, we are up and running again. I do have backup of our records but one needs the relative programs to open those files hence I could not get going on the newsletter until all programs were re-installed.

What are my observations? Firstly, a computer is a great gadget until it breaks down. Secondly, without a computer we could not possibly run a club the size of ours efficiently by one person; furthermore historical records would pile up in paperwork requiring efficient filing and storage space. We would need to employ staff or contract the work which would involve expense we just could not afford unless we double our annual subscription charge.

Having said all that, all is well now. All our records are very safe and with a bit of luck the Association will find a suitable replacement for me, should that eventuate at some future time. Meanwhile, just appreciate that electronic administration can and will involve unexpected costs but these would far outweigh manual administration.

Fred Viergever – Editor

President's Report



I trust many members had enjoyable holidays and appreciated being out on the water for a few weeks. Most of Australia appears to have had a reasonably tempered summer. As at now we are into autumn.

From observations, many use our chat site on varied topics relating to our boats. Also our web site is frequently visited. Even if you do not hear much from your central point, having those sites in place and use is encouraging.

We are nearing the end of another of our financial years and the frustrating exercise getting renewals is only a few weeks away. You will be receiving a sperate message in that regard.

Members will have noted that all our boatlisting files were updated as promised and that we changed the sign-in password to the member pages. There is a different method available where each member sets up his/her own password but to arrange that method is an exercise in itself. Hence it is more convenient to leave that aspect as it is and put up with the frequent email requests for the current password. It is also appropriate to menton that our chat site is open for usage to all members. If you wish to become more active in participation, send an email to me and I will make the arrangements.

I find that a number of members make contact on the subject of not being able to get into the member pages even though the correct password is being used. You need to understand that to-day's computer operating systems have build-in protection. If you experience difficulty, have a look at your 'pop-up blocker' which is located at the top of your browser, probably in the 'tools' button; some toolbars such as Google also have a build-in blocker, also located on the toolbar. In general terms, all you need to do is make some adjustments to that blocker, close your browser and re-open it. You should then be ok from then on.

Last month AWYC hosted the Victorian Trailable Yacht Championships and some details are related further on.

Your Association will again be actively involved in the Australian NX25 and NX30/Farr940 championships. Again, you will receive a separate message relating to that event.

Fred Viergever – President.

Treasurer's report



As noted by Fred, there are always unexpected circumstances lurking in the shadows, which is why it is important to have some reserves. Overall we have done ok for the year with a hint of a small surplus. To-date we have yet to replace the printer and pay for a Noelex flag and NYS pennant but those costs may not occur until after 31 March. As at right now we show a total balance just over \$25,000, slightly higher than at the same time last year.

David Wilcox - Treasurer

Website

Mentioned before, all lists contained in the member pages and the Boat History file were updated as at 31/12/2009. Membership was informed of the variation of the password. Once we have renewed all memberships for the next financial year commencing on 1 April all member listings will again be updated. This will most likely occur as at 30 June.

Web editor. (who?)

Chat site

The chat site continues to show good activity.

Membership



We have a few new owners to report and we extend a warm welcome to the following:

Noelex 25

- Giles and Sonia BRAY – Somerville Victoria - NX917 'FLYING CROSS' (previous non-member boat);
- Glendon CROWE – Parkdale Victoria – NX969 'JEMIMA PUDDLEDUCK' (previous member boat Ron and Joan Batty);
- Graham and Lauren CANDY – North Balwyn Victoria – NX970 'DASH' (previous non-member boat);
- Don and Libby SHORTRIDGE - North Narooma NSW – NX1008 'DISCO DANCER' (previous member boat H & C Shephard);
- Hugh and Sheila DAVIES – Hawthorn East Victoria – NX1014 'MERLIN' (previous member boat Peter Hackett *see below)

- **Other items:**

Andrew Knorr has renamed his NX25 number 891 to 'TIFFANY ANN'

Rick Holder has renamed his NX25 number 972 to 'BLACK DOG'

Noelex 30

- *Existing member Peter HACKETT NX1625 'BULLETPROOF' (previous member boat Mark Davies);

Associates

- Brian and Ann ENNO – Frankston South Victoria – purchasing a Noelex yacht;
- Darren and Liz GEORGESON – Caulfield South Victoria – future Noelex owners;
- Ross and Lyn WINZER – Exmouth WA – Previous NX25 members – rejoined and looking to upgrade to a Noelex30 with trailer.

Current membership stands at 189.

Membership director.

For Sale

The following boats remain for sale as shown on the web site and were featured with full description in previous issues of Telltales:

Noelex25

NX770 'The Real Thing' - Asking price \$32,000.00 location Queensland
NX827 'Palomino'- Asking price \$40,000.00 location Queensland
NX926 'White Pointer' - Asking price \$45,000.00 Located at Loch Sport Marina Victoria
NX1028 '(unnamed)' – Asking price \$75,000.00 location Queensland

Noelex30

NX1519 'Solitaire' – asking price \$87,500.00 location Victoria.
NX1521 "Strawberry and Cream" - asking price: \$81,500.00 location Victoria.

New listings: (see next pages)

The following pages list a number of boats currently for sale and not fully described in previous Telltales. All are listed on our web site with multiple pictures. It is not possible to display all those pictures in the newsletter and only one picture is reproduced within each advertisement.

NX804 Panacea

Marten Marine build with pop top and internal liner - Factory epoxy primed and anti fouled

3 owners from new with extensive documented history



Inventory:

Sails

UK Halsey main and jib (2007), Lidgard spinnaker, storm jib and North main and jib for cruising

Rigging

Standing rigging replaced 2004, spectra halyards and spinnaker sheet

Engine

2000 Honda 9.9 with 10 amp charger

Interior

Excellent original condition - New carpet - Pop top clears and mosquito screens

Electrical

Navman GPS - Navico depth – Autohelm - 27 MHz radio - Radio Cassette
2 x 90 AH AGM batteries (2007) - 18 W Solar panel

Trailer

Mackay with Al-Ko Duratorque suspension. 5 new tyres, little use.

General

Cockpit (full length) sun awning (2009) - Mainsail cover - New windows 2007
Magma BBQ - Waeco 80 lt fridge - Crockery and cutlery - New keel cable
Very well maintained boat for sale as growing family seeks larger boat.

Location – Melbourne area

Asking price \$37,500

Contact details: Matthew Anderson - 0400 025 241

Email: matthew_anderson@optusnet.com.au

Or contact Association email noelix@noelix.com

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NX 812 'Hurry Back'

New Zealand built 1985. Pop top with head liner.



Inventory

Sails

2 mains, 2 jibs, 1 storm jib, 2 genoas, 2 spinnakers and boom cover

Motor

Yamaha 8HP, recently fully serviced

Electrical

Radio tape deck, 27 MHZ 2-way radio, VDO Compact Log, SupraPro I D depth, solar panel

Interior

Teak fit out, 2 burner metho stove, porta potti, food bin, table, green velour cushions, vinyl covered cream cockpit cushions, mosquito screens

Trailer

Tandem tilt trailer with 912 power winch. Recently serviced with new wheel bearings. All safety gear including safety vests, flares, and fenders

Asking Price: \$39,500

Location: Melbourne

Contact: Peter Edgcumbe 0412483633 or (03) 9848 3633

Or the Association ph 03 9796 8269 – email: noelex@noelex.com

Member Contributions

John Mole recently published some technical details regarding solar panels. This was as a result of a number of discussions on the chat site. Below is a reproduction of John's explanation.

The solar panel output voltage is dependent on the current. The relationship (graph) plotting Volts versus amps is like a quadrant of a circle but with a bump in the middle - like the shape of a quarter of an old TV screen. Draw a diagram of the graph to help understanding.

When you measure the "open circuit" volts of the panel, the current draw to the meter is very small so the voltage indicated is high - almost the maximum possible from the panel. When you connect to the battery, the current increases so the voltage drops. Equilibrium is reached when the panel output volts are just a little above the battery volts and current flows into the battery. as the current flows into the battery, the battery volts go up so the current reduces and the solar panel volts go up. The relationship between panel volts and current always is somewhere on the quarter TV graph.

The maximum possible current is dependent on the solar panel power. Watts equals volts by amps, so the maximum possible current is 10 over 12.8 equals 0.78 amps, but you can get that only midday, bright and sunny, panel at right angles to the sun AND the voltage and current have the panel operating at the "corner" on the graph, where the panel output power (watts, which are volts multiplied by amps) is at its peak. In general, the panel volts and amps are not perfectly aligned at the "corner" so the output power is less than rated power. All this says your 10 watts is good for countering self-discharge (minor leakage across the terminals of the battery which, over a long enough time, will flatten the battery). It is possible to get an "Optimizer" or "Maximize", which adjusts panel volts to be right on the corner all the time, thus maximizing the panel output - great for solar car racing but not usually economic for boats.

The solar irradiance varies through the day, being maximum at midday and less in the morning and afternoon. The graph for that is similar to half a sine wave. When you adjust the panel to point towards the sun, you are increasing power but at the weakest part of the radiation so the gains are small. If you follow the sun perfectly for the whole day, you get about 20% increase in average power for the day. Less than perfect tracking equals less gain. I would think it is a lot easier to mount a slightly larger panel horizontally than try to track a smaller panel perfectly all day. Exception would be in winter where the sun is consistently in the north and tilting the panel north all day while you are stationary, would be beneficial.

Panel suppliers sometimes have a "calculator" for working out what size panel you need for the loads you want to sustain.

John

SPECIAL NOTE

After this page I will append a .pdf file supplied by member Warren Dickins, the content of which may be of interest to members.

Noelex Yacht Squadron Inc.



Albury/Wodonga Yacht Club was the host club for the YV Trailable Yacht Championships. The event was held last month on Lake Hume. Noelex25 Class yachts were well represented with nine boats participating. The final results are an example how well '25s perform in mixed fleet racing. Below are a couple of links you may like to follow to see the results and a number of pictures.

<http://www.awyc.yachting.org.au/default.asp?Page=46340>

<http://www.awyc.yachting.org.au/?Page=43244&MenuID=Photos%2F21631%2F0%2F%2C09%2D10%2F22341%2F0%2F>

Our own annual event is scheduled for April 17/18, again at RYCV at Williamstown. You will receive a separate message which contains the Notice of Race.

John Robb – Race Director.